



SOUTHEAST NEWS

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Summer 1983

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING

Using "More Churches, More Members for God's Mission" as the theme, delegates to the Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ met at the Bonanza United Church of Christ in Jonesboro, Ga. April 29-May 1.

The 190 delegates from our 100 congregations were called on to deal with three major issues: membership growth, the proposed 1984 budget and a resolution regarding nuclear weapons proliferation.

Keynote speaker James W. Atchison, Secretary for New Church Development for the United Church of Christ, pointed to the establishment of 53 new churches since 1979 as indicative of a "refreshing change" in the UCC with an emphasis on increased evangelism and growth. Cautioning against being caught in a "numbers game," Rev. Atchison put membership increase in the perspective of a complementary development that accompanies spiritual growth. He also made delegates aware that membership growth and development would be two of the 4 major points under discussion when the General Synod meets this summer.

Rev. Atchison's general charge was reiterated in an address by Rev. Sandye Mullins, who called upon the delegates to view the Great Commission as a partnership between themselves, God and others. In her address, Rev. Mullins emphasized the need for cooperation among denominations while pointing to the individual Christian's responsibility for the effort to implement the Great Commission and leaving the responsibility for the success of those efforts to God.

A panel of pastors whose churches are growing numerically presented specific tactics for achieving increased membership. Citing increased lay involvement, local benevolence activities, personal contact with visitors, improved Sunday School programs, goal setting and the need for total church commitment to growth, the pastors also stressed the need for a more assertive public stance by UCC members and clergy toward the church's interdenominational nature. George Fidler, St. John's, Cullman, AL; Eugene Keen, United Church of Huntsville, AL; Joseph Irwin, Button Gwinnett UCC, Lilburn, GA; were led by Floyd Carmack, Chair.

After lengthy discussion requiring an extension of the resolutions sessions, delegates voted 5:3 in favor of a communiqué to the governments of

both the Soviet Union and the United States rejecting nuclear arms proliferation and supporting a bilateral and verifiable freeze on nuclear arms development. As on all other issues, this was a vote of the conscience of the individual delegates and not intended to reflect the feelings of all conference members.

In a final action, Rev. Floyd Carmack, pastor of Bonanza United Church of Christ on Jonesboro, GA., was installed as Conference Moderator for a two year term.

--Harry Duke
Bonanza United Church of Christ, Jonesboro, GA

Curt's Nuggets

From the desk of Curtis Schumacher, Pleasant Hill, Tennessee:

Ninety per cent plus God goes farther than one hundred per cent without God.

Conference Calendar

JUNE 24-29	General Synod, Pittsburgh, PA
JULY 4	Independence Day
AUGUST 7 & 8	Board of Directors, Cheaha, AL
AUGUST 9	GA Council of Churches

SUPPORT TO ELON HOME FOR CHILDREN

We have recently received the following HONOR ROLL for "total support" to the Elon Home for Children for 1981:

1.	Belvidere, TN, UCC	\$998
2.	Roanoke, AL, Rock Stand	581
3.	Roanoke, AL, New Hope	282
4.	Roanoke, AL, Antioch	275
5.	Pine Mountain, GA, Oak Grove	273
6.	Roanoke, AL, First	253
7.	Fairfield Glade, TN, Community	252
8.	LaGrange, GA, United	225
9.	Dadeville, AL, Elder	223
10.	Wedowee, AL, Noon Day	200
11.	Baker, FL, Pyron Chapel	200

CONFERENCE INTERN POSITION FILLED

It was great news for the Southeast Conference when Marilyn M. Breitling, the Coordinator for the UCC Coordination Center for Women, announced that the Rev. Ms. Sandye Mullins of Atlanta had been appointed to fill the Conference Intern position. This project is made possible by official funding from the Family Thank Offering. Her service begins on a 1/2 time basis September 1st and will extend for nine months. She will work with the Conference Minister in all phases of Conference programs. We are delighted to have such an outstanding young minister on our staff.

BOOKS FOR ZIMBABWE

The Southeast Conference now has the above captioned film and cassette tape and script available. The United Church Board for World Ministries hopes you will use this film in your church groups.

The goal has been increased to 25,000 at the urging of our partner United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe. So far, 18,000 books have been sent to Zimbabwe but the need is great. It is hoped that this film will encourage us to "accept the challenge the filmstrip makes."

NEWS & NOTES

Brookmeade Congregational Church in Nashville had their sanctuary featured by Abingdon Press as a photographic setting for an Advent altar arrangement to be included in a 1984 worship and altar calendar/workbook.

Brookmeade members and friends honored *Lee and Ann Gable* for their contributions during their interim pastorate. They were presented with a framed photograph by Tennessee photographer Clayton Hayes titled "Morning Mist."

Church of the Savior, UCC in Knoxville, welcomed UCC World's Fair visitors into their church this past summer. Twenty-five youth groups made use of the church's facilities throughout the summer from as far away as Missouri and Wisconsin.

Pleasant Hill Community Church, UCC of Pleasant Hill, TN honored *Dr. Harley Patterson* in April for his fine ministry during his interim pastorate which concluded on Sunday, April 10th.

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of *Rev. Marion Mansell*, former pastor of the *Fairfield Glade Community Church*, who died March 23rd. A memorial service was held at the church on Sunday, April 3rd.

The Rev. S. Daniel Rosemergy was installed as Pastor and Teacher of *Brookmeade Congregational Church, UCC in Nashville, TN* at a service on

Sunday, June 12th. Officers of the church and the Alabama-Tennessee Association as well as Conference Minister Emmett O. Floyd participated.

The Rev. Robert F. Peeples was installed as Pastor and Teacher of *Pleasant Hill, TN Community Church, UCC*, in a service on Sunday, June 19th. Rev. Arnold Slater was the preacher and officers of the church and Alabama-Tennessee Association along with the Conference Minister Emmett O. Floyd shared in the service.

Rev. John F. Schaeffer, Jr. was honored at his church, *Belvidere United Church of Christ*, at a Sunday morning worship service on June 19th. The occasion was the 30th anniversary of his ordination to the ministry. Conference Minister Emmett O. Floyd preached and brought greeting. Rev. Schaeffer's parents and his wife's parents, along with other relatives, were present. Our congratulations and prayerful best wishes for many more years of ministry.

Pine Forest Congregational Christian UCC in Lanett, AL welcomed *Rev. Fred Mills* as their interim pastor. Rev. Mills is on the History faculty at LaGrange College.

On June 1st, *Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC, Birmingham* welcomed Thomas Kevin Higgs, a Junior at Birmingham Southern College, as their new Youth Minister. He is majoring in Religion and Political Science and plans to pursue a degree in Theology after graduation.

Elder Congregational Christian Church's Youth Group in Dadeville, AL raised \$300 in a 2-day "Work Day for Christ" doing yard-work on March 8 & 9. Money raised goes toward a Spring Mini-Camp in Laguna Beach, Florida.

Rev. Henry W. Tuttle of *Pilgrim Congregational in Birmingham* participated in a Telethon on behalf of Children's Hospital. This was part of a nationwide Telethon to benefit children's hospitals across the nation. Rev. Tuttle serves as a part-time volunteer chaplain for this institution.

First Evangelical & Reformed Church, UCC of Nashville, TN was honored to have a former pastor, *Dr. Vincent W. Bucher & Mrs. Bucher* from New York as guests on May 22nd. Dr. Bucher was pastor there 50 years ago.

The Rev. Dr. David Beebe, pastor of *Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC in Chattanooga*, participated in a Celebration of Peace during Jobs with Justice Week, along with many other artists, dancers, etc. He read a collection of his own peace poems.

Our deepest Christian sympathy is extended to the family of *Mrs. Jean Dailey of Lanett Congregational Christian UCC*. She was an active lay leader and a member of the original task force for Women in Church and Society.

Rev. H. Eugene Keen recently suffered a mild heart attack, but is doing well. He returned to his pulpit at *Huntsville United Church of Christ* on Sunday, June 26th.

Rev. Ira W. Chace recently underwent corrective surgery on his shoulder and will be on sick leave for the summer. His church, *Pilgrim UCC in Marietta, GA* plans to move into its first unit in a few weeks.

On August 20th and 21st, the *Oak Grove Congregational Christian UCC of Pine Mountain, GA* will hold their *11th Annual Oak Grove Country Fair*. Fair hours are from 10 am to 6 pm. Admission is \$2 for adults, \$1 for Senior Citizens. Children under 12 are free. Proceeds from the fair are used for Christian Outreach projects through the Oak Grove Foundation.

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE STAFF CHANGES (AND ADJUSTMENTS)

Virginia McCamey, part-time secretary for the Southeast Conference and Secretary for the Office of Church Life and Leadership here in Atlanta is on a two month leave. She and her husband are off with friends to Alaska. We wish them a safe and pleasant journey.

Kathy Buck will be filling in part-time in the OCLL office while Virginia is on leave.

Kathy Martin is the new Administrative Assistant for the SEC. *Annette Piper* has moved with her family to New Orleans, LA. We will miss Annette but wish her well in her new home.

Kathy and her husband Gene have recently returned to Atlanta with their three children after 4 years in Houston, TX. She has been a member of the United Church of Christ for 13 years.

In Brief

Toll-free number for ordering material from Church Leadership Resources:
1-800-325-7061

PRESENTING THE REV. MR. L. FLOYD CARMACK

The newly elected moderator of the SEC is the Rev. Mr. L. Floyd Carmack, pastor of Bonanza UCC in Jonesboro, GA. He is the organizing pastor of Bonanza which was a new church start some eighteen years ago. He brings wide experience in Conference work to this position, having just completed a term as Chair of the Outreach Commission. We welcome his dedication and leadership skills to the role of moderator.

REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION ON WOMEN IN CHURCH AND SOCIETY

The place of women clergy in our midst is increasingly being raised. As a conference we find ourselves somewhere between the lifting of the baton and the beginning of the chorus. We sit squirming in our seats, clearing our throats, mostly ready, slightly unsure of the song we will sing.

In his annual report, our conference minister puts it this way:

“Young women continue to come out of our seminaries well trained for leadership in our churches but are usually unable to procure a call to the parish ministry. This is a tragic waste of leadership potential which our churches need. I challenge each congregation to consider seriously one of these women ministers when its pulpit is vacant.”

The Commission on Women applauds such giant steps; we also affirm smaller ventures. We as a commission challenge each congregation to consider seriously this year, one of these ministers when its pulpit is *full*. That is, as a guest preacher.

To facilitate this, we will use our column over the next year to introduce our ministers and seminarians to you. This issue begins with a partial listing. Future issues will complete the listing and extend more lengthy introductions in the form of interviews with some of our ministers about their life and work.

We *are* ready to begin, and when we get used to the sound of the Word that comes also through alto voice, we will know that the concert is fuller and the song familiar:

“Praise God from Whom all blessings flow, Praise God, ALL creatures here below.”

--Carol Jean Delcher

ORDAINED

Nancy Donny, 435 Biddle Rd., Columbia, SC 29210

Reka Kaetzel, Box 21861, Columbia, SC 29221

Sandy Mullins, 2019 Westminster Way N.E., Atlanta, GA 30307

Joyce Myers, P.O. Box 29883, Atlanta, GA 30359

Geraldine Sullivan, 1700 Clifton Rd., Atlanta, GA 30329

Madelon Nunn-Miller, 3270 Ozark Cir., Chattanooga, TN 37415

Laura Lee Kent, 515 Basswood Dr., #F-63, Nashville, TN 37209

LICENSED

Carol Jean Delcher, 2478 Williamswood Ct., Decatur, GA 30033

SEMINARY

Carolyn S. Richter, 465 Medlock Rd., Apt. C, Decatur, GA 30030

FREDA BROWN HONORED

Now the whole General Synod of the United Church of Christ knows what we in the Southeast Conference have long known—that Freda Brown is an outstanding example of leadership. Each Conference had one of its women so recognized and honored at a special service sponsored by the Coordinating Center For Women. Freda was the one selected from the Southeast for her outstanding leadership and service. We join the rest of the United Church of Christ in saluting her!

LIBBY SCOTT ELECTED

Elizabeth (Libby) Scott of Central Congregational U.C.C. in Atlanta was elected a member of the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ. The daughter of Rev. and Mrs. William T. Scott, Jr., she will serve for four years filling out the term of Elizabeth Green Streeter of Huntsville, AL, who resigned. We are proud of Libby and wish her well in this important role.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board of Directors for the Southeast Conference will meet at Cheaha Park, Alabama on August 7-8.

All members of the Board welcome your communications of ideas and concerns that should be brought before the Board at this meeting.

LOVE IN DEED ...

The voices of thanksgiving will be raised throughout the year for your One Great Hour of Sharing offering. We are grateful that you have used this opportunity to reach out in compassion to those in need in the world.

As of May 31, 1983, churches in the Southeast Conference had given \$16,417.69 to OGHS.

CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS TO THE NEW SEC DIRECTORY

Below are listed any corrections or changes of which we are aware. If you know of others that we are not aware of, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can keep the Conference informed.

Under Commission Coordinators:

Asst. Outreach Coordinator: Harry L. Duke, 10546 Thrasher Rd.,
Jonesboro GA 30236

Under Association Representatives:

S. Ala. Area Council Moderator—J. T. McAdams has retired and should
be deleted

Under Conference/Association Staff:

Add Virginia McCamey, Part-time SEC Secretary, P.O. Box 29883,
Atlanta, GA 30359

Under National Staff:

Add Virginia McCamey, Secretary, Office for Church Life and Leadership,
P.O. Box 29883, Atlanta, GA 30359

Under Ministers with Standing:

McAdams, J. T./1959/Rt/EA, 787 Berkley Avenue N.W., Atlanta, GA
30318

Peebles should be spelled *PEEPLES*

Add: Worth, Howard A., P.O. Box 505, Pleasant Hill, TN 38578

Mansell, Marion—Deceased, March 23, 1983

Winterbottom, William R.—should be listed as *retired*

A REMINDER ...

That the United Church of Christ Women are holding their Southern
Regional Meeting at Monteagle, TN on October 14-16, 1983.

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

Kathy Martin, Editor

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United Church of Christ

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